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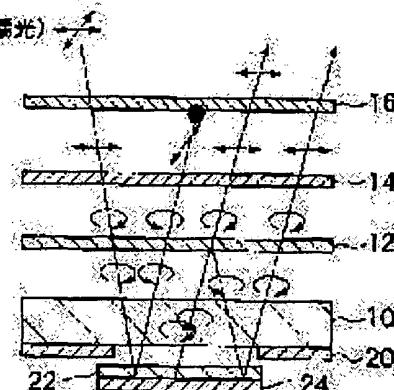
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(54) EL ELEMENT

(57)Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To provide an EL element with excellent contrast characteristics and display brightness characteristics.

SOLUTION: A polarizing plate 16, a quarter wavelength plate 14, a selective reflection layer 12, a light emission layer 22, and a reflection electrode 24 are successively laminated. The selective reflection layer is formed by polymerizing a cholesteric liquid crystal layer and reflects selectively the first circular polarization component of incident light. The light from outside, penetrating through the polarizing plate and the quarter wave length plate, is reflected by the reflection electrode after passing through the selective reflection layer, and absorbed at the polarizing plate after passing through the selective reflection layer again. Out of the light from the light emission layer, one of the circular polarization component passes through the selective reflection layer and the polarizing plate and is emitted to the observing side, and the other circular polarization component is reflected by the selective reflection layer and reflected further by the reflection electrode in the direction of observation side, and passes through the selective reflection layer and the polarizing plate, and emitted to the observation side.



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